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MILBURN P. AVERETT

SEN. J. W. FULBRIGHT (D-Ark.) has, after listening to the testimony of John A. McCone, Central Intelligence Agency director, declared criticisms of the CIA's activities in South Viet Nam are without foundation. Perhaps. The testimony (for understandable reasons) was taken in secret. But, judging by over-all results in South Viet Nam, the CIA isn't entitled to praise either. The public (not having access to information on the hush-hush activities of this super cloak and dagger operation) has no criterion other than results by which to judge. Senatorial assurances do not suffice when conditions are as badly messed up as they are in South Viet Nam. The CIA bungled the job in Laos as it also must share the blame for the Bay of Pigs fiasco and the ill-timing of the U-2's flight over Russia on the eve of the Paris Summit Conference.

*The tumult and the shouting dies;
The Captains and the Kings depart.
—Kipling*